Sweet Content

Walter C. Macfarren
(1828–1905)

Moderato assai ♩ = 88

S: Art thou poor, yet hast thou gold-en slum-bers? O

A: Art thou poor, yet hast thou gold-en slum-bers? O

T: Art thou poor, yet hast thou gold-en slum-bers? O

B: Art thou poor, yet hast thou gold-en slum-bers? O

S: sweet con - tent! Art thou rich, yet is thy mind per -

A: sweet con - tent! Art thou rich, yet is thy mind per -

T: sweet con - tent! Art thou rich, yet is thy mind per -

B: sweet con - tent! Art thou rich, yet is thy mind per -

ShorChor

Sweet Content

plex - ed? O___ pun - ish - ment! Dost thou

plex - ed? O pun - ish - ment! Dost thou

plex - ed? O pun - ish - ment!___ Dost thou

plex - ed? O___ pun - ish - ment! Dost thou

laugh to see how fools are vex'd To add___ to gold - en num - bers, gold - en

laugh to see how fools are vex'd To add___ to, add to gold - en

laugh to see how fools are vex'd To add___ to, add to gold - en

laugh to see how fools are vex'd To add___ to, add to gold - en

num - bers? O___ sweet con - tent! Sweet con - tent! Sweet con -

num - bers? O sweet con - tent! Sweet con - tent! Sweet con -

num - bers? O sweet con - tent! O sweet con - tent! O sweet con -

num - bers? O sweet con - tent! Sweet con - tent! Sweet con -

Lyrics by voice part:

Measures 15–17:

S: tent! O sweet con - tent! Sweet_____ con - tent!_____

A: tent! O sweet,_____ O sweet con - tent!_____

T: tent! O sweet con - tent! O sweet_____ con - tent!_____

B: tent! O sweet con - tent! O sweet con - tent!

Measures 18–21 (♩. = 88):

S: Work a - pace, a - pace, a - pace, a - pace; Hon - est la - bour

A: Work a - pace, a - pace, Work_____ a -

T: Work a - pace, a - pace, a - pace, a - pace; Hon - est la - bour

B: Work a - pace, a - pace, Work_____ a -

Measures 22– (*Animato* ♩ = 116):

S: bears a love - ly face; Then hey non - ny, non - ny no,

A: pace, a - pace; Then hey non - ny, non - ny no,

T: bears a love - ly face; Then hey non - ny, non - ny no,

B: pace, a - pace; Then hey non - ny, non - ny no,

S: hey non - ny no, hey non - ny, non - ny no, hey non - ny no.

A: hey non - ny no, hey non - ny, non - ny no, hey non - ny no.

T: hey non - ny no, _____ hey non - ny, non - ny no, hey non - ny no.

B: hey non - ny no, hey non - ny, non - ny no, hey non - ny no.

Tempo 1mo. ♩ = 88

S: Canst drink the wa - ters of the crisp - èd spring? O _____

A: Canst drink the wa - ters of the crisp - èd spring? _____ O _____

T: Canst drink the wa - ters of the crisp - èd spring? O

B: Canst drink the wa - ters of the crisp - èd spring? O

S: sweet con - tent! _____ Swim'st thou in wealth, yet sink - est in thine

A: sweet con - tent! _____ Swim'st thou in wealth, yet sink - est in thine

T: sweet con - tent! _____ Swim'st thou in wealth, yet sink - est in thine

B: sweet con - tent! _____ Swim'st thou in wealth, yet sink - est in thine

own ____ tears? O ____ pun - ish - ment! _____ Then he that

pa - tient - ly want's bur - den bears, No bur - den bears, but

is ____ a ____ king, a king! O sweet con - tent! Sweet con - tent! Sweet con -

S: tent! O sweet con - tent! Sweet _____ con - tent! _____

A: tent! O sweet, _____ O sweet con - tent! _____

T: tent! O sweet con - tent! O sweet _____ con - tent! _____

B: tent! O sweet con - tent! O sweet con - tent!

♩. = 88

S: Work a - pace, a - pace, a - pace, a - pace;

A: Work a - pace, a - pace, Work _____

T: Work a - pace, a - pace, a - pace, a - pace;

B: Work a - pace, a - pace, Work _____

S: Hon - est la - bour bears a love - ly face; Then

A: _____ a - pace, a - pace; Then

T: Hon - est la - bour bears a love - ly face; Then

B: _____ a - pace, a - pace; Then

Sweet Content

Animato ♩ = 116

S A T B

hey non - ny, non - ny no, hey non - ny no, hey non - ny non - ny no,

hey non - ny, non - ny no, hey non - ny no, hey non - ny non - ny no,

hey non - ny, non - ny no, hey non - ny no, hey non - ny non - ny no,

hey non - ny, non - ny no, hey non - ny no, hey non - ny non - ny no,

cresc. *ff*

hey non - ny no, non - ny no, non - ny no, hey non - ny, non - ny

hey non - ny no, non - ny no, non - ny no, hey non - ny

hey non - ny no, non - ny no, non - ny no, hey non - ny, non - ny

hey non - ny no, non - ny no, non - ny no, non - ny, non - ny

sempre ff *pesante*

no. O sweet con - tent! O sweet con - tent!

no. O sweet con - tent! O sweet con - tent!

no. O sweet con - tent! O sweet con - tent!

no. O sweet con - tent! O sweet con - tent!

Walter Cecil Macfarren (1826–1905) was in London, the younger brother of one of the leading Victorian composers, George Alexander Macfarren. He was a chorister at Westminster Abbey and sang at Queen Victoria's coronation. He had thoughts of becoming an artist, taking lessons in painting, but entered the Royal Academy of Music, studying the pianoforte and composition. He became a sub-professor of the pianoforte and was on the staff of the Royal Academy fifty-seven years. Macfarren was musical critic for the 'Queen' newspaper from 1862 until his death. He was chiefly concerned with teaching the piano and had some distinction as a conductor. He suffered from weak eyesight, but did not become totally blind, as did his brother. He composed many small pianoforte pieces and choral works, including two church services and many part-songs. He wrote no large-scale choral or dramatic works and wrote only a limited amount of orchestral music.

Art thou poor, yet hast thou golden slumbers?
    O sweet content!
Art thou rich, yet is thy mind perplex'd?
    O punishment!
Dost thou laugh to see how fools are vex'd
To add to golden numbers golden numbers?
  O sweet content! O sweet, O sweet content!
Work apace, apace, apace, apace;
Honest labour bears a lovely face;
Then hey nonny nonny—hey nonny nonny!

Canst drink the waters of the crispèd spring?
    O sweet content!
Swim'st thou in wealth, yet sink'st in thine own tears?
    O punishment!
Then he that patiently want's burden bears,
No burden bears, but is a king, a king!
  O sweet content! O sweet, O sweet content!
Work apace, apace, apace, apace;
Honest labour bears a lovely face;
Then hey nonny nonny—hey nonny nonny!

Thomas Dekker (1575-1641)